

# Dek Unu Magazine

Solo Exhibitions of Fine  
Photoart Portfolios

January, 2018

Featured Artist

**Vlad'ka Kočvarová**

"Metamorphosis"

Cover Image: The City of My Soul  
© Vlad'ka Kočvarová



# Dek Unu Magazine

## Eleven

This is **Dek Unu Magazine**. In Esperanto, dek unu means "eleven." Eleven Images from a single artist. Eleven artists in eleven solo issues each year.

**Dek Unu** publishes the work of a new photoartist in each issue. The artist's work and words are featured alone and in individual focus as the sole purpose for each issue of the magazine. Unlike other arts and letters magazines which might look for work from a variety of artists to support an editorial staff's theme, at **Dek Unu**, theme and imagery are always each artist's own.

**Dek Unu** seeks challenging, complex work that focuses and intensifies perception from artists who demonstrate accomplished technical craft and mature aesthetic vision.

## This Month

**Dek Unu** presents sensual and surreal portraits of the inhabitants of the dreams of featured artist, Vladka Kočvarová.

Ms. Kočvarová lives in Ostrava in the industrial northeast of the Czech Republic. Her work is clearly at home in the Czech Surrealist tradition while her methods are clearly rooted in the technology of the 21st century. Her iPhone is both her only camera her only editing workstation.



Black Swan

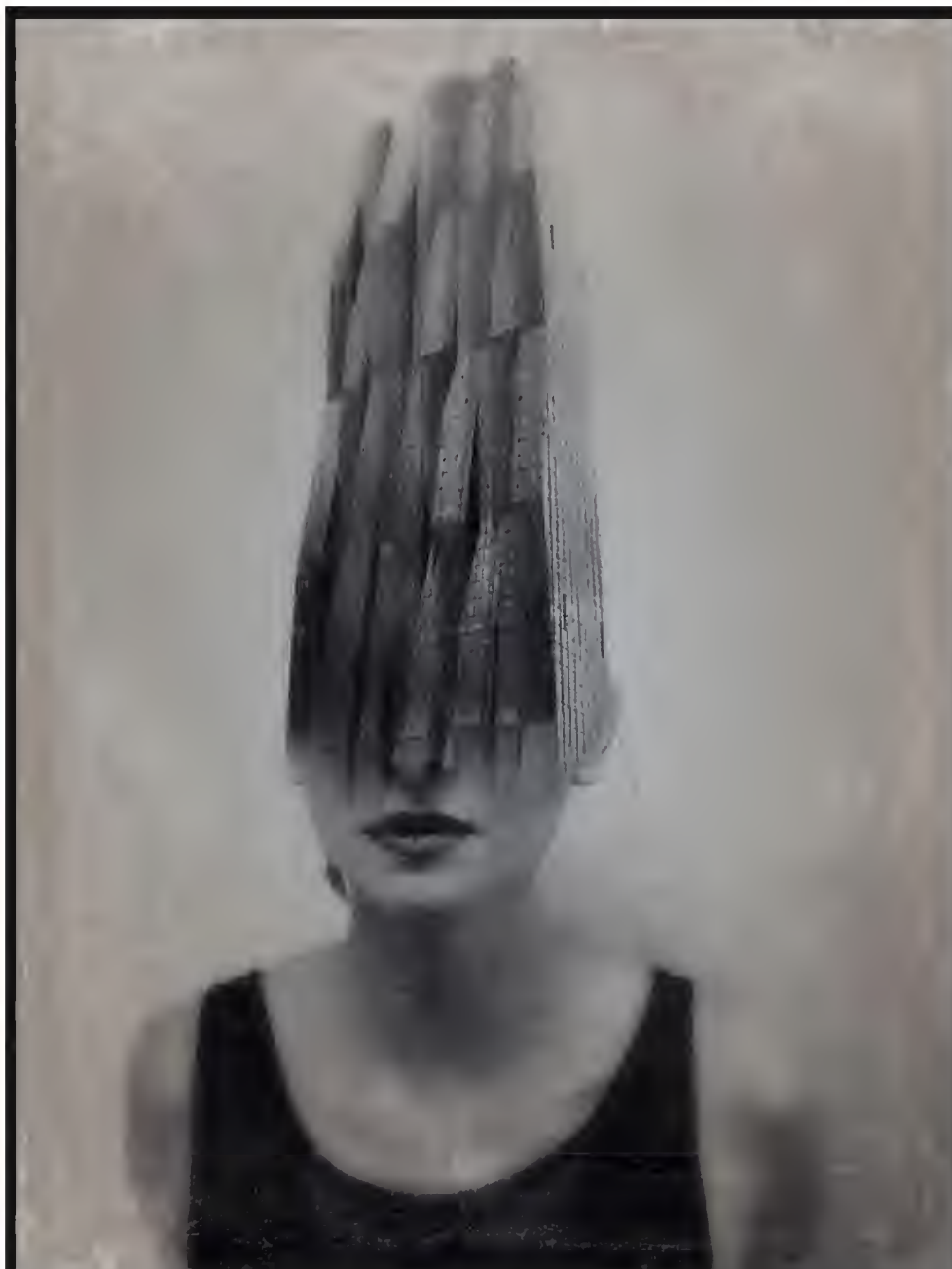




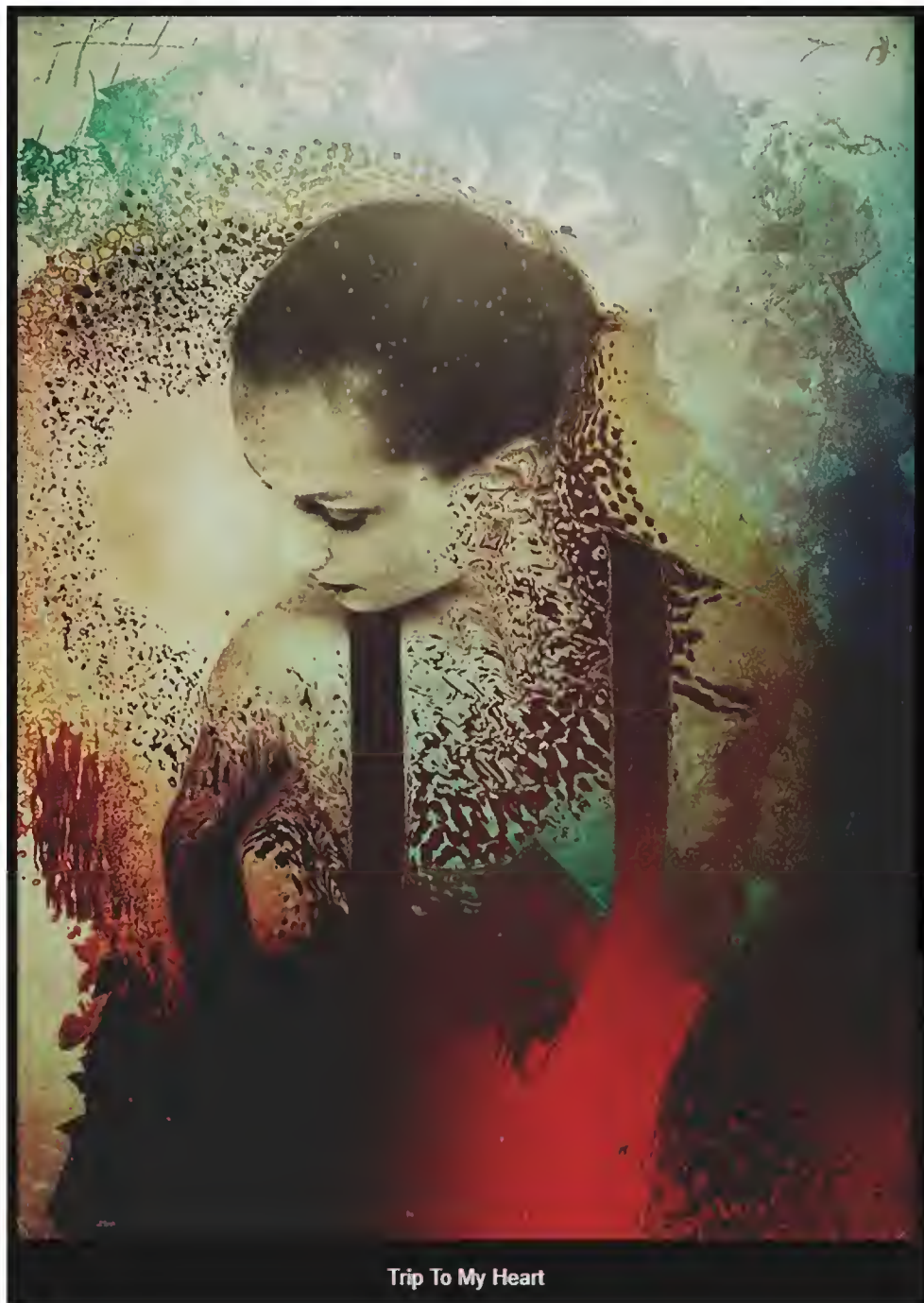
Imaginary Day



Metamorphosis



A Strangeness in My Mind



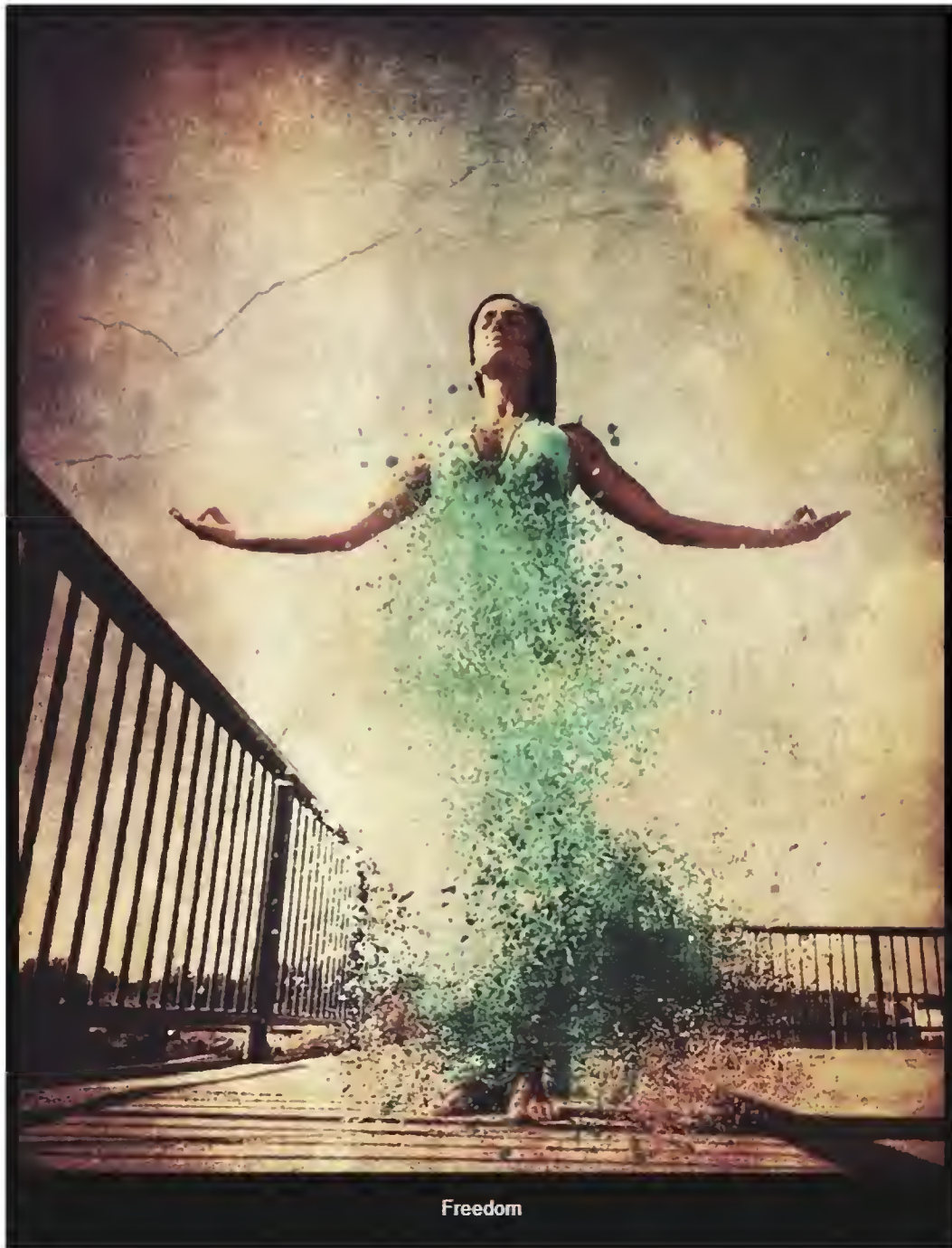
Trip To My Heart





Rebirth





Freedom



Soul Eating





Face of Nature



Behind Blue Eyes





The City of My Soul

# Artist Interview - Vlad'ka Kočvarová

Hi, Vlad'ka...Introduce us to your work. Where do these beautiful and unusual images come from?

My photos are situated between fantasy and reality and my work is a kind of therapy. In each photo, I seek not only balance and calm, but also something that irritates and provokes me. I love rawness, sensuality, but I love gentleness and tenderness, too.

Are you formally-trained? Your work is very accomplished and suggests study in the visual arts in your background. Details?

I don't have a formal art school background although my soul has been artistic and philosophical by nature. I studied philosophy in school but art to me is a passion and an outlet. I paint, draw, and write; I studied piano for many years and I still play. I have always been interested in photography. When I started, I made digital photos... nature, concerts... with conventional equipment, but I started creating this kind of work when I bought my first iPhone.

When did that happen? Were you an "early adopter?"

My boyfriend bought me my first iPhone 5 in 2014 and that's how it all started. Now I am using iPhone 6. I began with the familiar, shooting street, nature, and everything else that seemed interesting to me. But soon I slowly began to discover various applications that opened my door to the creative world of iPhoneography. Everything around the mobile photo captivated me. I can say that the iPhone really changed my photographic life. I started watching Facebook photography groups and discovered photographers and their creations on Instagram. I am so surprised by how many world class photographers are taking pictures with their mobile phones and by what they can create with them.

It seems incredible to many of us that you do not off-load your images or any manipulation tasks to a "real" computer.

Yes, I do all the manipulation of my photos on my mobile device. I don't import "foreign" components, I take all photos myself. Most mobile photography competitions require that photos be edited only

on the mobile device.

Are you the model for the images in this portfolio with a female subject? They are a huge step up from typical cell phone "selfies!"

Yes, I'm mostly the model for my photographs. My ultimate goal is to find new faces for my future work. The blue-eyed man in this portfolio is my boyfriend, my biggest supporter and best critic.

You use an assortment of different editing apps. Do you have a favorite or "go to" app to recommend?

I love to play with new apps. I don't want to get stuck in a creative routine. But these applications I use most often: Union, Mextures, Stackables, Photoshop Fix and TinType. All these fit my photo style.

I have no work routine. Creative mood or ideas I get anywhere. It can be at the bus station, on my walk, or at home. There are no limits to creativity. Mobile art is amazing, I can create anywhere!

Where do you find inspiration or support?

My city, Ostrava, is an inspiration to me. It is a very industrial place and is mistaken by many people for its cold and hard environment. However, it has a soft aspect that can contribute a richness to self development. People are more expressive and welcoming and although one might see this city as more depressed, as an artist I see big potential. What's more inspiring than people working hard and living life with their heart?

For support, I am part of Czech FB group named "Mobilní fotografie cz/sk" and many international mobile groups, among which my favorites are: @mag\_mobileartgroup, @grupamobilni and @TheAppWhisperer. And Instagram is brilliant, what a perfect way to share photos!

What are your plans for the upcoming year?

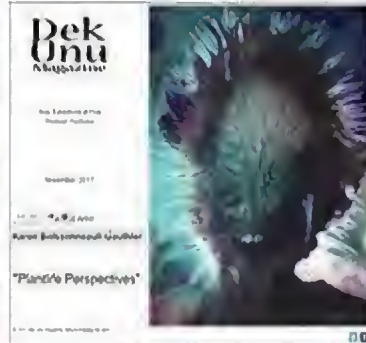
I'm planning a solo exhibition which I would like to have in some industrial place in Ostrava. Please keep up with me at:

<https://www.instagram.com/wphotonick> and  
<https://www.eyeem.com/u/wnick11>

## Issues



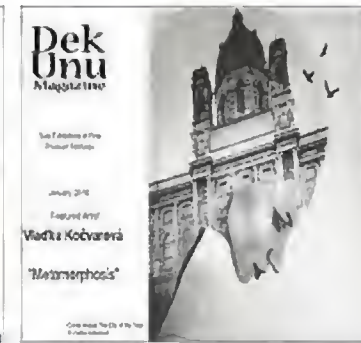
Marlene Burns  
October 2017



Karen Boissonneault-Gauthier  
November 2017



John Mahoney  
December 2017



Vladka Kočvarová  
January 2018



**How to submit:****(Open for February: Deadline January 20, 2017.)**

E-mail 11 images as file attachments to:

[dekunumag\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:dekunumag[at]gmail[dot]com)

E-mail subject Line = Artist's name - Title of Project

Web-resolution .jpg only (1024 pixels on the longest side). No watermarks please.

Message must include:

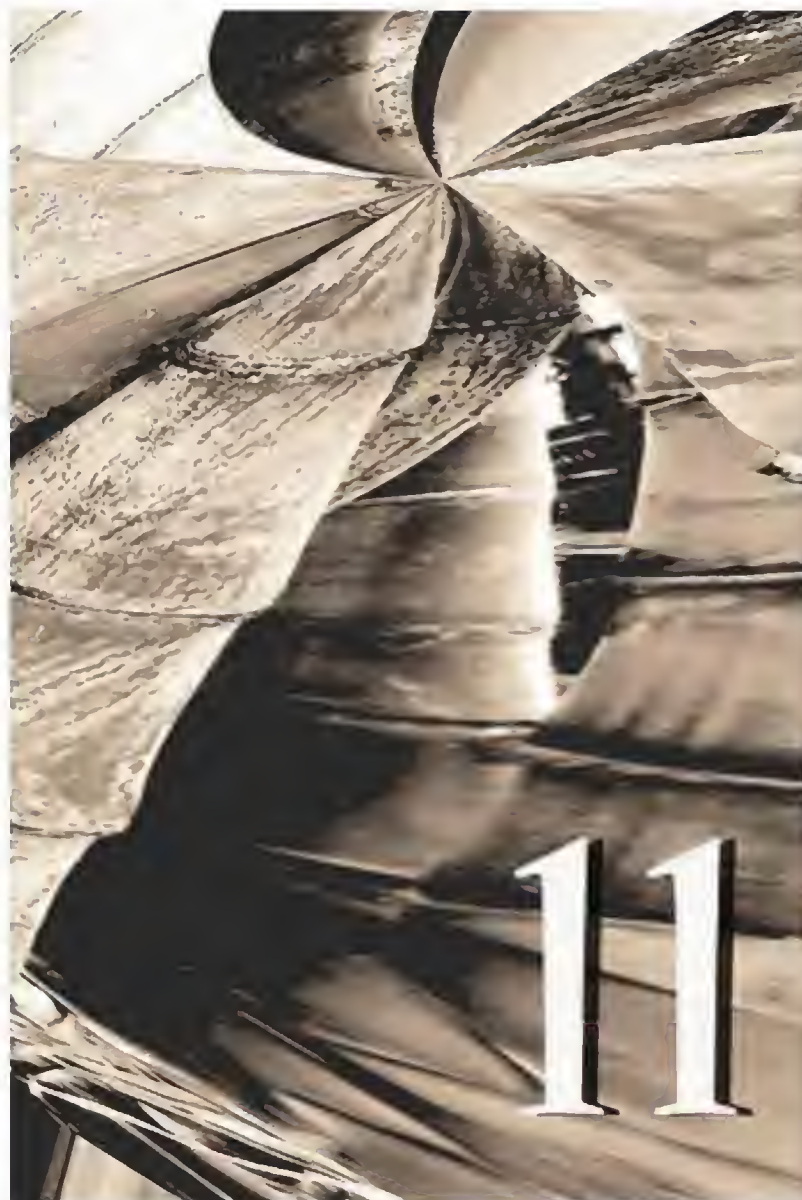
1. Artist's preferred email address
2. Attached files named exactly as follows:
  - Image sequence number (plus)
  - Artist's last name (plus)
  - Underscore (plus)
  - Image\_title (separate words with underscore)

Example: If your name is Edvard Munch, the first two files in your list of attached files would be named:

1Munch\_The\_Scream.jpg  
 2Munch\_Self-Portrait\_with\_Cigarette.jpg  
 (etc.)

3. 150 word 3rd person bio/cv
4. Artist's statement: brief description of the portfolio.  
*Dek Unu Magazine* seeks work that is not only technically excellent but also aesthetically coherent.

When you are selected, *Dek Unu* will contact you for an online interview to be included in the issue in which your images appear.

**Please read Terms of Publication [here](#).**



## Terms of Publication

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- You grant Dek Unu the persistent right to use any of the published material for the promotion and marketing of the magazine and participating artists.
- You acknowledge that Dek Unu does not assess a fee to submit and does not pay contributors.
- While every effort is made to show your work as originally presented, you agree to any and all editorial alterations of work necessary for fit and function in the magazine including but not limited to reformatting and cropping.
- While Dek Unu may accept challenging and confrontational work, pornography and gratuitous violence are not acceptable.





## Contact Dek Unu

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